Statement-II

In order to boost production of oilseeds, the Government of India have been assisting State Governments through two projects namely National Oilseeds Development Project (NODP) and Oilseeds Production Thrust Project (OPTP).

NODP is being implemented in 180 districts of 17 States. It is jointly funded by the Central and State Governments. The total outlay of the project during 7th Five Year Plan is Rs. 170 crores; Rs. 100 crores as Central share and Rs. 70 crores as State Government's share. During 1988-89, Rs. 14.5 crores as GOI's share have been provided to the States under the programme. The Main elements of NODP are:

— demonstration of improved technology;
— production of foundation and certified seed;
— distribution of improved farm implements;
— distribution of seed, fertilisers, minikits, and
— plant protection measures.

OPTP, which was started in 1987-88 with 100 per cent Central assistance is currently being implemented in 246 districts of 17 States (including 151 NODP districts) with a total annual outlay of Rs. 35 crores. The Project aims at development of four major oilseeds, namely groundnut, rapeseed/mustard, soyabean and sunflower, which account for 85 per cent of total production of oilseeds. Under the project the emphasis has been on the following area:

— large scale production of quality seeds;
— extensive plant protection measures;
— supply of improved farm implements;
— transfer of technology, and
— application of Sulphur in groundnut and mustard crop.

Statement-III

The Integrated Policy on Oilseeds

The Integrated Policy announced in the first week of January 1989 has five important elements:

1. Support to farmers with technology, inputs etc. to increase production.
2. Review of PDS prices.
3. Prescription of a price band.
4. Procurement of domestically produced oilseeds/edible oils by NDDB soon after harvest at incentive prices for building a buffer stock for release in the market in the lean season, to maintain prices within the prescribed price band; and
5. Empowered Committee headed by Cabinet Secretary to supervise the implementation of the Integrated Policy.

New variety of Paddy Seeds released by Orissa

2815. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Orissa Government has released recently a new variety of paddy seeds named Heera; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The super fast paddy variety "Heera" (CR 344-1-2) released by Orissa state in 1988 matures in 65-70 days and yields 2.5-3.0 t/ha of paddy. It is resistant to blast, tungro virus, gall midge and is suitable for upland drought prone areas of Orissa

Technology Mission for the Handicapped

@2815-A. SHRI MAULANA ASAD MADNI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are setting up technology mission for the handicapped which would help in acquiring modern equipment and provide them job-oriented education; and

(b) if so, by when and where the mission is likely to be set up and to what extent it would help the handicapped in using the technology?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) and (b) The Government have set up under Ministry of Welfare a Science and Technology Project in the mission mode on application of Technology for the Welfare of the Handicapped. The project aims at evolving low cost aids and appliances, hardware and software, appropriate to the Indian conditions in order to enhance mobility, amployability, easier living and integration of the handicapped person in society. The Project has started functioning from December, 1988 in New Delhi.

@Previously Unstarred Question 2238, transferred from the 16th March, 1989.

News Report on the Indian Bureaucracy

@@2815-B. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item in 'Sunday Observer' (February 5-12-1989, issue) by one K. Mohan on the Indian bureaucracy aimed at widening North-South division; and

(b) if so, whether Government will discourage such distorted news reporting by issuing a rejoinder giving the public the correct position?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) The Government have seen the news item.

(b) The Government are looking into the matter.

12 Noon

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Report and Accounts (1987-88) of the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited, New Delhi and related papers.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

(i) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1987-88, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts.

(ii) Review by Government on the working of the Federation.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—7533/89 for (i) and (ii)]

@@Previously Unstarred Question 2483, transferred from the 16th March, 1989.